

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the  
EASTERN District of MISSOURI

United States of America

v.

TRAVIS SANTEL JONES

*Defendant*

Case No. 4:25CR179 MTS

ORDER OF DETENTION PENDING TRIAL

Part I - Eligibility for Detention

Upon the

- ☒ **A.** Motion of the Government for a detention hearing pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3142(f)(1) because the defendant is charged with:
- ☒ **(1)** a crime of violence, a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1591, or an offense listed in 18 U.S.C. § 2332b(g)(5)(B) for which a maximum term of imprisonment of 10 years or more is prescribed; **or**
  - ☒ **(2)** an offense for which the maximum sentence is life imprisonment or death; **or**
  - ☒ **(3)** an offense for which a maximum term of imprisonment of 10 years or more is prescribed in the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. §§ 801–904), the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. §§ 951–971), or Chapter 705 of Title 46, U.S.C. (46 U.S.C. §§ 70501–70508); **or**
  - ☐ **(4)** any felony if such person has been convicted of two or more offenses described in Subparagraphs (1) through (3) of this paragraph or two or more of such offenses if a circumstance giving rise to federal jurisdiction had existed, or a combination thereof; **or**
  - ☐ **(5)** any felony that is not otherwise a crime of violence but involves **(a)** a minor victim; **(b)** the possession of a firearm or destructive device (as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 921); **(c)** any other dangerous weapon; or **(d)** a failure to register under 18 U.S.C. § 2250;

**OR**

- ☐ **B.** Motion of the Government or the Court's own motion for a detention hearing pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3142(f)(2) because the case involves:
- ☐ **(1)** a serious risk that the defendant will flee if released; **or**
  - ☐ **(2)** a serious risk that the defendant will obstruct or attempt to obstruct justice or threaten, injure, or intimidate, or attempt to threaten, injure, or intimidate a prospective witness or juror if released.

The Court found that the Government established one or more of the factors above, held a detention hearing, and found that detention is warranted. This order sets forth the Court's findings of fact and conclusions of law, as required by 18 U.S.C. § 3142(i), in addition to any other findings made at the hearing.

**Part II - Findings of Fact and Law as to Presumptions under § 3142(e)**

- ☐ **A. Rebuttable Presumption Arises Under 18 U.S.C. § 3142(e)(2) (*previous violator*):** There is a rebuttable presumption that no condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the safety of any other person and the community because the following conditions have been met:
- ☐ **(1)** the defendant is charged with one of the following crimes described in 18 U.S.C. § 3142(f)(1):
    - ☐ **(a)** a crime of violence, a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1591, or an offense listed in 18 U.S.C. § 2332b(g)(5)(B) for which a maximum term of imprisonment of 10 years or more is prescribed; **or**
    - ☐ **(b)** an offense for which the maximum sentence is life imprisonment or death; **or**
    - ☐ **(c)** an offense for which a maximum term of imprisonment of 10 years or more is prescribed in the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. §§ 801–904), the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. §§ 951–971), or Chapter 705 of Title 46, U.S.C. (46 U.S.C. §§ 70501–70508); **or**
    - ☐ **(d)** any felony if such person has been convicted of two or more offenses described in subparagraphs (a) through (c) of this paragraph, or two or more State or local offenses that would have been offenses described in subparagraphs (a) through (c) of this paragraph if a circumstance giving rise to federal jurisdiction had existed, or a combination of such offenses; **or**
    - ☐ **(e)** any felony that is not otherwise a crime of violence that involves:
      - (i)** a minor victim; **(ii)** the possession or use of a firearm or destructive device (as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 921); **(iii)** any other dangerous weapon; or **(iv)** a failure to register under 18 U.S.C. § 2250; **and**
  - ☐ **(2)** the defendant has been convicted of a federal offense that is described in 18 U.S.C. § 3142(f)(1), or of a State or local offense that would have been such an offense if a circumstance giving rise to federal jurisdiction had existed; **and**
  - ☐ **(3)** the offense described in paragraph (2) above for which the defendant has been convicted was committed while the defendant was on release pending trial for a federal, State, or local offense; **and**
  - ☐ **(4)** a period of not more than five years has elapsed since the date of conviction, or the release of the defendant from imprisonment, for the offense described in paragraph (2) above, whichever is later.
- ☒ **B. Rebuttable Presumption Arises Under 18 U.S.C. § 3142(e)(3) (*narcotics, firearm, other offenses*):** There is a rebuttable presumption that no condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the appearance of the defendant as required and the safety of the community because there is probable cause to believe that the defendant committed one or more of the following offenses:
- ☐ **(1)** an offense for which a maximum term of imprisonment of 10 years or more is prescribed in the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. §§ 801–904), the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. §§ 951–971), or Chapter 705 of Title 46 (46 U.S.C. §§ 70501–70508);
  - ☒ **(2)** an offense under 18 U.S.C. §§ 924(c), 956(a), or 2332b;
  - ☐ **(3)** an offense listed in 18 U.S.C. § 2332b(g)(5)(B) for which a maximum term of imprisonment of 10 years or more is prescribed;
  - ☐ **(4)** an offense under Chapter 77 of Title 18 (18 U.S.C. §§ 1581–1597) for which a maximum term of imprisonment of 20 years or more is prescribed; **or**
  - ☐ **(5)** an offense involving a minor victim under 18 U.S.C. §§ 1201, 1591, 2241, 2242, 2244(a)(1), 2245, 2251, 2251A, 2252(a)(1), 2252(a)(2), 2252(a)(3), 2252A(a)(1), 2252A(a)(2), 2252A(a)(3), 2252A(a)(4), 2260, 2421, 2422, 2423, or 2425.
- ☒ **C. Application of Any Presumption Established Above**
- ☒ The defendant has not rebutted the presumption.
  - OR**
  - ☐ The defendant has rebutted the presumption.

### Part III - Analysis and Statement of the Reasons for Detention

After considering any applicable presumption, the nature and circumstances of the defendant's alleged conduct, the defendant's history and characteristics, the other factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3142(g), the information presented at the detention hearing, and the available conditions of release under 18 U.S.C. § 3142(c), the Court concludes that the defendant must be detained pending trial because the Government has proven:

- ☒ By clear and convincing evidence that no condition or combination of conditions of release will reasonably assure the safety of any other person and the community.
- ☐ By a preponderance of evidence that no condition or combination of conditions of release will reasonably assure the defendant's appearance as required.

The reasons for detention include the following checked items (*After this list, add any additional items or explanations as needed to comply with the requirement for a written statement of reasons under 18 U.S.C. § 3142(i).*):

- ☒ The offense charged is a crime of violence, a violation of § 1591, a federal crime of terrorism, or involves a minor victim or a controlled substance, firearm, explosive, or destructive device.
- ☒ Weight of evidence against the defendant is strong.
- ☒ Subject to lengthy period of incarceration if convicted.
- ☐ Lack of significant family or other ties to the community.
- ☐ Significant family or other ties outside the United States.
- ☐ Lack of legal status in the United States.
- ☐ Subject to removal or deportation after serving any period of incarceration.
- ☐ Lack of stable residence.
- ☐ Lack of stable employment.
- ☐ Lack of financially responsible sureties.
- ☐ Prior attempt(s) to evade law enforcement.
- ☐ Use of alias(es) or false documents.
- ☐ History of alcohol or substance abuse.
- ☒ Prior criminal history.
- ☒ History of violence or use of weapons.
- ☐ Prior violations of probation, parole, or supervised release.
- ☐ Prior failure to appear in court as ordered.
- ☐ On probation, parole, and/or release pending trial, sentence appeal, or completion of the sentence at the time of the alleged offense.
- ☐ Participation in criminal activity while on probation, parole, or supervision.
- ☒ The defendant's release poses serious danger to any person or the community.

**OTHER REASONS OR FURTHER EXPLANATION:**

Facts contained in the Pretrial Services Report [ECF No. 19], evidence and arguments proffered by both the United States and defense counsel at the detention hearing, and other information proffered by both defense counsel and counsel for the United States at the detention hearing, form the factual basis for this detention order. Defendant is charged with multiple offenses that are eligible for the death penalty.

At the detention hearing in this case, the United States proffered evidence that Jones was involved in the murder of two victims in July 2020 that he was later captured celebrating (along with other co-conspirators) video/or other recordings. The United States also proffered evidence that Jones was involved in the murder of another individual on June 6, 2022. Based on information provided at the hearing the United States' evidence against the defendant appears to be strong.

The Court has also considered information obtained from the written pretrial services report, the Court's docket, and the Order for Pretrial Detention entered in United States v. Jones, Case No. 4:22CR350 AGF. In his 2022 case, Jones plead guilty to possession with intent to distribute fentanyl and possession of a firearm in furtherance of drug trafficking, and was sentenced to 60 months in the U.S. Bureau of Prisons. His anticipated release date is January 20, 2027.

In the 2022 case, Jones was ordered detained pending trial in part because "Mr. Jones was in a shootout on May 8 in the Cochran Housing Project and fired his weapon at a car driving down the street. A house and multiple vehicles were shot. Mr. Jones was shot in the calf that same day. On May 31, Mr. Jones fired his weapon blindly out of the door of an elevator towards a group of people. He then ran out of the building and shot at two individuals on Chestnut Street and struck a vehicle. He then fired his weapon on Pine Street." [ECF No. 26, at p.3].

Based on the nature and circumstances of the charged offenses and defendant's personal history and characteristics, which includes a history of serious, violent, firearm-related felony offenses, drug trafficking and gang-involvement, no conditions or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the safety of the community if defendant is released.

**Part IV - Directions Regarding Detention**

The defendant is remanded to the custody of the Attorney General or to the Attorney General's designated representative for confinement in a corrections facility separate, to the extent practicable, from persons awaiting or serving sentences or being held in custody pending appeal. The defendant must be afforded a reasonable opportunity for private consultation with defense counsel. On order of a court of the United States or on request of an attorney for the Government, the person in charge of the corrections facility must deliver the defendant to a United States Marshal for the purpose of an appearance in connection with a court proceeding.

Date: 7/30/2025

Shirley P. Mensah  
U.S. Magistrate Judge